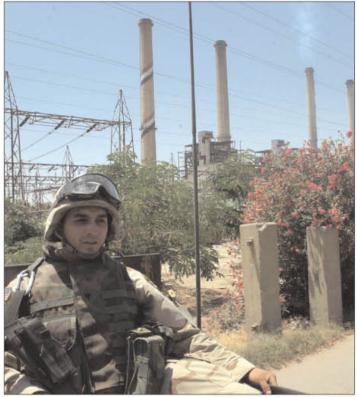
Operation Iraqi Freedom II

"Telling the First Team's Story"

Friday, June 11, 2004

# 5th BCT Helps Turn on the Lights



By Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

Spc. Michael Garcia, a Bravo team gunner with the 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, rides to a security checkpoint at the Al Daura power plant in the Al Rashid district of Baghdad. Garcia's platoon works with the Iraqi Electric Power Security Service and Facility Protection Service to provide security for the plant. Contractors are currently working to return the plant to full operational capacity.

## 39th BCT SJA Pays

B y Cpl. Benjamin Cossel 122nd MPAD

CAMP COOKE- It's inevitable; combine large military vehicles with narrow, congested streets and accidents are going to happen. When the incident is caused by the actions of Coalition forces, citizens can receive compensation for the damages.

Located at Camp Cooke's Castle Gate, Soldiers of the 39th Brigade Combat Team's (BCT) Staff Judge Advocate department have established a centralized claims center. It opens at 9 a.m. and doesn't close until all claims for the day are complete.

"We've been fully operational since about mid-March," said Chief Warrant Officer Ron B y Spc. Andy Miller 122nd MPAD

AL DAURA, Baghdad, Iraq- Electricity runs the infrastructure of Baghdad, the industry of the economy and the lights in the homes. But lately the flow has been sporadic, and it's a problem the 1st Cavalry Division's 5th Brigade Combat Team (BCT) is working to fix.

To bring an uninterrupted supply of electricity to Baghdad, it is essential that the Al Daura power plant returns to full operational capacity. Its four main generators have been inoperable for months so its old and damaged turbines can be repaired by German and Russian contractors.

While the repairs will eventually put enough power for all the residents of Baghdad back into the grid, Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment are doing their part to ensure the plant remains secure from outside threats.

Sgt. First Class Alvin Alejandro, the platoon sergeant

## Iraqis for

Angel, a legal administrative officer with the 39BCT.

Angel said that the claims center handles cases ranging from destruction of personal property to loss of limbs and accidental deaths. But large vehicle damage claims occupy the majority of their time.

"I'd say 90% of the claims that we see is vehicle damage," he said. "From cars that have for 1st 'Red' platoon of Company B, calls this plant one of the crown jewels of the Al Rashid area of Baghdad. He thinks getting the power back on will not only help the Iraqis get their lives back together, but will change the way they perceive Coalition forces in their neighborhoods.

"If we could give them full electricity right now, 24 hours a day, there will be a 100 percent change in the whole sector," Alejandro said. "If we can get this thing running and maintain it running, it will be a big plus for us and the Army overall."

While work is being done to restore the plant's power generating capacity, the "Red Team" is providing security to the site, with help from Iraqi security forces of the Iraqi Electric Power Security Service (EPSS) and Facility Protection Service (FPS). This security mission is vital to all parties involved. In the past, contractors have left the site after feeling threatened by insurgent activity. Having the

Continued on Page 2

## **Damages**

been run over and crushed by one of our track vehicles to minor paint damage or a fender-bender type situation."

Assuming all paper work is in order, a claim takes about three weeks until a final payment of damages is awarded, said Sgt. 1st Class Arlin Terrell, brigade chief legal noncommissioned officer, 39BCT

Continued on Page 2

## Red Team Soldiers Secure Area to Bring Power Back to Iraq

Continued from Page 1 Red Team Soldiers standing by gives them the confidence they need to do their job, Alejandro said.

"All of the agencies have their doubts about security, and if we don't get involved with it and talk to them, they don't feel comfortable," Alejandro said. "And if they don't feel comfortable, they're not working."

To make sure they feel secure, Alejandro's platoon

provides daily and nightly site security, and has been working to train the EPSS and FPS to improve their security tactics. Working with the Iraqi security forces has improved their skills and lessened some of the intimidation they initially felt about the American Soldiers, said Lt. Donald Owens, the Red platoon leader.

"Its gotten a lot better since we've been here," Owens said. "The people here; they

trust us. We've established relationships with the people in the power plant and all the companies that work here."

This relationship makes cooperation possible between the multinational group working together to bring power back to the people of Baghdad. Recently contractors have achieved a small victory in getting one of the turbines back into part-time operation. The flow of electricity in some sections of Al Rashid has

improved from a rate of two hours on, four hours off; to a rate of three hours on, three hours off. Contractors at the site hope to steadily increase this rate until the supply is continuous and uninterrupted.

"The Coalition force brought their help to fix the security and bring the power plant back to normal and I hope we will do that together." Bashir K. Omair, the power plant manager, said.

#### SJA Staff Provides Guidance With Procedure, Documentation

Continued from Page 1 Adjudication Officers review the claims and use formulas and costs of similar claims filed in the United States to deter-

mine a fair and reasonable compensation level.

The team has encountered many difficulties when working with Iraqi citizens, often dragging the process out longer than the three-week targeted time frame, because of the different language spoken and their different means of filing a claim.

"Often people will show up to the claim center with incorrect paper work or no paper work at all, so we have to send them home until they have the correct documentation," Terrell said. "We might see six different types of vehicle registrations in one day."

Aside from citizens helping out the process with proper documentation, Angel said that Soldiers can also play a key role in making the process smoother. If they could report any accidents or incidents that occur to the legal team it would make the legal team's job easi-

"It allows us to match up notes provided by the Soldier with what the citizen is saying and get the claim paid that much faster," Angel said.

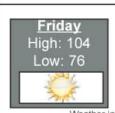
Dispelling a common misconception about reporting an incident, Angel said that a claim is not a punitive action against a Soldier.

"I think a big reason why Soldiers are leery in talking to us and letting us know when something happened is they believe it will adversely affect them," he said. "We are not here to put a garnishment of wages or anything else against a Soldier; we just want to compensate citizens for any damages that Coalition forces cause."

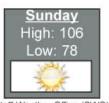


By Cpl. Benjamin Cossel, 122nd MPAD

Sgt 1st Class Arlin Terrell (right) reviews a claim form handed him by an Iraqi citizen.







Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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Iraqi Word of the Day hospital mus-tesh-fe

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# June 11, 2004 On the Home Front

## **Company Honors the Man Who Loved Jelly Beans**



iellybelly.com

In his own words: "You can tell a lot about a fellow by his way of eating jelly beans." - Ronald Reagan In Memoriam: Ronald Reagan, 1911-2004

▶ From AP

FAIRFIELD, Calif. -Black ribbons are affixed to the large jelly-bean mosaic portraits of Ronald Reagan at the Jelly Belly Candy Co.

The family-owned company that makes the tiny, intenseflavored candies owes a lot to the former president.

Reagan's love for the candy "made us a worldwide

company overnight," said chairman Herman Rowland.

It all began in 1967, when the San Francisco Bay-area company started supplying Reagan, then serving his first term as California's governor, with miniature jelly beans to help him quit smoking.

"It's gotten to the point where we can hardly start a meeting or make a decision without passing around the jar of jelly beans," Reagan wrote to Rowland in 1973.

Reagan carried the tradition to the White House, where the company's jelly beans became a must-have at Cabinet meetings.

The president, whose favorite flavor was licorice, ordered 7,000 pounds of Jelly Bellys for his 1981 inauguration, and Rowland traveled to Washington to help design a special jelly bean jar bearing the presidential seal.

The company produces about 13 billion individual jelly beans a year, up from 4 billion in 1984. It has 670 employees. compared with around 50 in the 1960s.

Mourners have been leaving jelly beans in Reagan's memory at his presidential library and other spots.

About 500,000 visitors a year tour the factory in Fairfield, posing for pictures in front of the Reagan portraits that have had a place of honor at Jelly Belly for year

One shows him in front of the American flag, depicted in cherry, coconut and blueberry jelly beans. Another is a swirl of strawberry daiquiri, bubble gum and other flavors that depicts him with wife Nancy.

Patricia Kriletich, 54, of Novato, recalled the first time she heard about Jelly Bellys, during Reagan's presidency.

"I used to say, 'What's a Jelly Belly?' He took a little company and made it famous," she said during a tour of the factory this week. "They have a lot to thank him for."



By Spc. Nicole Poppe. Fort Hood Sentinel

Soldiers from the 2-20 FA, 4th Inf. Div., fired a cannon every thirty minutes beginning at reveille and ending at retreat Tuesday on Fort Hood's Sadowski Field, in memory of former President Ronald Reagan.

### **Today in History**

#### June 11

From historychannel.com

1864 Battle of Trevilian Station 1935 Gene Wilder born 1940 Britain strikes back at Italy 1962 Alcatraz proves escapable for three men 1963 University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa desegregated 1967 The Six-Day War between Israel and its Arab neighbors ends with a United Nations-brokered cease-fire 1979 John Wayne dies

# Sports/Leisure

## Toronto Blue Jays Draft Former KHS Baseball Standout

From Killeen Daily Herald

It was right there on his computer screen, but even Rhame "Chip" Cannon couldn't believe it.

The former Killeen High baseball standout was selected in the eighth round (237th overall) by the Toronto Blue Jays at last weekend's Major League Baseball Amateur Draft, giving Cannon his longawaited dream of a professional baseball career.

"I had a feeling I was going to be selected, but I didn't think it would be so soon,"
Cannon said. "I saw my selection on the Internet and a few seconds later, we got the phone call from the Blue Jays. It's a dream come true."

After four strong years as a Kangaroo infielder and pitcher, Cannon took his talents to The Citadel where he blossomed into a complete ball player.

To say the least.

This past season, Cannon batted .358 and led his team in home runs (17), runs batted in



(66), runs scored (69), doubles (20), total bases (158), base on balls (71), slugging percentage (.681) and on-base percentage (.514).

Those numbers earned Cannon a selection on this year's Louisville Slugger/TPX All-American Team.

"When I went out to see him play last summer, the biggest thing I noticed was how big he's gotten," KHS coach Mark Carranza said. "He was always tall, but he's filled out big time."

Such is the case for the 6foot-5, 225-pound power hitter, who helped the Bulldogs advanced to the NCAA Regionals before being eliminated with a 1-2 tourney record.

Cannon went 5-4 with a 4.59 ERA for the Bulldogs. He had 15 starts, two complete games, 24 walks and 69 strikeouts in 98 innings of work.

After spending his early years in Charleston, S.C., Cannon's parents "Rooster" and Sherry Cannon moved the family to Killeen after the Charleston Naval Shipyard shut down.

"Being an east coast guy, coming to Killeen was a bit of an adjustment, but it allowed me to see things I never saw before," Cannon said. "I got to meet and hang out with different types of people and I still have great friends and memories of my time out there."

At Killeen, Cannon was a three-time, all-district selection, a two-time all-region selection and a steady plus-.300 hitter as well as an above-average pitcher.

Cannon ranks in The Citadel's top-10 in home runs, RBIs, slugging percentage, walks and total bases. He hit three career grand slams and his reputation as a power hitter helped Cannon set a school record with his 71 walks this



The Charleston Post and Courier

A former player for the Killeen Kangaroos and The Citadel Bulldogs, Rhame 'Chip' Cannon will postpone dental school as he pursues a professional baseball career with the Toronto Blue Jays.

ear.

That dedication also carried over into the classroom for Cannon, who posted a 3.44 grade point average. He graduated with a criminal justice major, but is considering a career as a dentist.



#### MLB



### INTERLEAGUE PLAY Detroit 7

New York 10

Atlanta 4

Colorado 4

Texas 9 Pittsburgh 7

Montreal 8 Kansas City o

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE Chicago Cubs 12 St. Louis 3



#### **NBA**



